

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 25146 301720Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 25146

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OECD, CIEC

SUBJECT: PEREZ-GUERRERO UNABLE ACCEPT SECRETARY'S
INVITATION TO VISIT WASHINGTON NOW; COMMENTS ON PROS-
PECTS FOR CONTINUING CIEC COMMISSION MEETINGS

1. I RECEIVED A PHONE CALL THIS AFTERNOON FROM
VENEZUELAN FONMIN PEREZ-GUERRERO WHO IS PRESENTLY
SITUATED IN THE G-19 OFFICE IN CIEC. HE SAID THAT
HE WAS CALLING TO THANK THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
HIS INVITATION TO DROP BY AND TALK WITH HIM IN WASHING-
TON ON THE STATUS OF THE DIALOGUE, BUT THAT UNFORTUNATE-
LY HE MUST DECLINE FOR NOW. HE IS PLANNING TO STAY ON
THIS SIDE OF THE OCEAN UNTIL THE MEETING OF THE G19
GROUP, NOW SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 10-12 IN PARIS, AND
HOPEFULLY THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE COMMISSION MEETINGS A
FEW DAYS LATER.

2. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE PROGNOSIS FOR THE RESUMPTION OF
THE COMMISSION SESSIONS ON SCHEDULE HE SAID
THAT "THEY SHOULD BE GOOD. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO
RESUME. WE ARE PREPARED TO MOVE ALONG." HE FURTHER
INDICATED THAT THE G-19 HAD SOME "IDEAS THEY WOULD LIKE
TO PURSUE ON THEIR SIDE" BUT OF COURSE THEY WERE NOT
PREPARED TO PAY "TOO HIGH A PRICE" FOR RESUMPTION.

3. WHILE PEREZ-GUERRERO WAS QUITE OPEN AND
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PAGE 02 OECD P 25146 301720Z

CORDIAL, WITH AN APPARENTLY OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK ON THE

PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUATION, HE WAS OBVIOUSLY RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS THE SPECIFICS FURTHER PRIOR TO THE G-19 CONCLAVE. HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT HE PLANNED TO TALK AGAIN WITH MR. MACEACHEN, PROBABLY IN PARIS, SOMETIME PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 10 AND HOPED THAT THE REMAINING IMPEDIMENTS TO PROGRESS MIGHT BE RESOLVED AT THAT TIME. HE SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD IT WAS OUR DESIRE TO PROCEED FORWARD IF THE FEW OBSTACLES COULD BE REMOVED. I ASSURED HIM OF OUR INTEREST IN SO DOING, AND OFFERED TO BE OF ANY ASSISTANCE THAT WOULD BE USEFUL DURING HIS VISIT TO PARIS.

4. AT THE TERMINATION OF THE CALL, HE AGAIN ASKED ME TO CONVEY HIS APPRECIATION TO THE SECRETARY FOR HIS INTEREST AND THE THOUGHTFUL INVITATION. HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD WELCOME THE CHANCE TO TALK TOGETHER WHEN HE IS NEXT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC, PERHAPS IN THE EARLY FALL.

5. THE STATUS OF CANADIAN/VENEZUELAN CONTACTS ON THE CIEC WORK PROGRAM AS SEEN BY CANADIANS IS REPORTED IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE. TURNER

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